

**Charles Smith to George Washington, October 12, 1758,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of
America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH.

FORT LOUDOUN Octr. 12 1758

DR. SIR/

I Receivd. Yours from Rays Town bareing no Date, but an Answer to mine of the 18th. of Sepr. Lieutt. Swearingen with 20 Rangers in Compy. with Lieutt. Slawter & 20 of the Culpepper Militia is a Guard to the Waggon as far as Fort Cumberland as there was no Others to be had.

I have Imploy'd two Very good Masons to Assist in Underpinning the Bastion which we have Laboured at this ten days past. I Could not Ingage any Person of Skill for Less than 5s/Pr. Day for Each & finding them Diet —

I have Advertis'd Your two Mares in the Virga. Gazite & at Fredricksburgh & Several Other Places at 20s/ Each Mention'd Stray'd away On the the first of June, from Colo. Spotswoods, the Mare You Bought from Capt. Linsey is a bright Bay & about 14 hands high well Sett, a Trotter, & Branded with fore S s —

The One You bought from Saml. Givends is a black Mare Trotts, About 14 hands & a ½ high no brands, but a Small Star in her forehead, & a Small S on her near shoulder —

Library of Congress

I have sent the Horse I Stopt from Burris to Your Quarter, I have Imploy'd Your Waggon 7 Days in fetching Stone, Lime & Water for the Masons & Timber for Covering the Barricks which is done for the Publick, I have Imploy'd her 5 Days more for the Towns People, at 10s/ pr. Day. & now must imploy her a few Days, in fetching Cole Wood for Your Smiths & after that I shall have more Business for Different People, as for Your Smiths work I have not time to give You a full Account but Shall take Care to Let You know Every Particular in my Next —

the Country People about here is Very Uneasy to find there Accounts not to Pass at Williamsburgh for Plank, Iron, Steal & Many Other Nessasarys that I was Desired by You to Contract in the behalf of the Country. to furnish those Nessasarys for the Use of the Publick Work I believe the Sum due, when You Left this Place, Amounted to £217 for Waggonage & all —

the £25 You Left with me I have Paid to the Miner which I have taken his Recept. for & he has near £20 More due besides what I am in Debt for Cartridges Paper Brimstone for Matches Smiths Work & Masons & Waggonage must at Least amount to £140 —

I wrote to the Governour for a Small Supply of Money, Where he Return'd in his Letter, as You left £25 with me to furnish the Well & Cover all the Buildings, You must be Sencible there was 8 Or 10£ due to the Miner When You Left this & his Work since is Amounted to near £40 the Masons Near £12 & many Other Expences that must be Paid the Governour & Council Seems to think that I have Run the Country to this Expencc by no Ones Orders but my One, as they imagine by Your Letter Leaveing me £25 would Compleat the whole, I am Still Desired by them not to Let any of the Building Suffer, & Carry On the Well, I will Leave You to be a Judge if You think Workmen is to be had Or any Nessasarys got without Money therefore I have Advanced some Money of my Own Credit, I am now desired by the Council to Let them know by whose Orders I Contracted, but at the Same time they have Promised to Pay what is Due, as What is Done was highly Nesasary for the

Library of Congress

Good of the Country, I Shall Just send all Accounts Against the Country Down, & then if they Order me to Carry On the Well they must Raise more Money —

I have Ingaged 30 Bushels of hair for You & Shall send them Down by the first Oppertunity to Your House in farfax —

I have sent You the Exact Return of this Garrison inclos'd with some Letters, I have no News worth Notice —

I am Dr. Sir Your Most Obedient & Very Humble. Servt. CHAS. SMITH